Attorney Docket No. SYMYX/8 DIV. 1 CONT. 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Yumin Liu

Filed

Concurrently Herewith

For

: Ni CATALYSTS AND METHODS FOR ALKANE

DEHYDROGENATION

MAIL STOP Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

New York, New York November 20, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.